

RIO GRANDE®

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COPPRclay™ Cone Earrings



What you'll need:

Czech fire-polish bead asst., 6mm	Rio PMC® kiln
Surgical steel ear wires	(1) Index card
(2) Copper head pins; 2"	Olive oil
Copper wire, 20-ga.	Circle template; 1 1/4"
COPPRclay, 100g	Swanstrom cutters
Rio metal clay tool kit	Swanstrom round-nose pliers
Texture sheets	Swanstrom chain-nose pliers
Warming & drying plate	Round needle file
Coconut shell-based activated carbon	Nail file
Stainless steel firing pan	Scissors
	Tape

All products referenced in this instruction sheet
are available online and in your
Rio Grande Tools & Equipment catalog.

Making the COPPRclay™ cones

1. Cut the index card in half crosswise so you have two rectangles. Roll each rectangle into identical cone shapes and tape the edges together. Trim the cones so the bottoms are flush.
2. Roll out a piece of COPPRclay™ four-cards thick. Apply a thin layer of olive oil to the surface of the texture sheet. Press the texture onto the surface of the clay.
3. Place the circle template onto the textured clay. Use the needle tool from the tool kit to cut two circles that measure 1 1/4" diameter. Remove the excess clay and return it to the COPPRclay package for safe storage. Place a sheet of plastic wrap over the two circles to keep them moist.
4. Gently wrap one of the clay circles around one of the paper cones, leaving a small opening at the top (figure 1).
5. Using the blending tool from the tool kit, apply some slip to the clay where the edges will overlap, then gently press the edges together. Wet the paintbrush from the tool kit and brush a small amount of water along the seam. This will help seal the layers together.
6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 to create the second clay cone.
7. Place both cones on the warming & drying plate and allow the pieces to dry completely.



Figure 1

8. Once the pieces are completely dry, remove the clay cones from the paper form. Use the nail file to gently sand the edges so they are smooth. Use the round needle file to smooth the small opening at the top of the cone.
9. Embed the clay cones completely in coconut shell-based activated carbon inside the stainless steel firing pan. Fire in a kiln at 1700°F for 3 hours.
10. Once firing is complete and the firing pan is cool to the touch, remove the cones and rinse them with water to remove any carbon residue.
11. Oxidize and polish as desired.

Assembling the earrings

1. Add one 6mm bead to a copper head pin. Use the round-nose pliers to make a loop at the end of the head pin.
2. Using the Swanstrom cutters, cut a 11/2"-long piece of 20-ga. copper wire. Use the round-nose pliers to make a loop at the end of the wire, then hook it onto the looped end of the beaded head pin (figure 2).
3. Pass the other end of the copper wire into the cone and out through the top hole. Add another 6mm bead.
4. Make another loop at the end of the wire (figure 3), then attach it to the ear wire to complete the earring. Repeat steps 12–15 to complete the second earring.



Figure 2

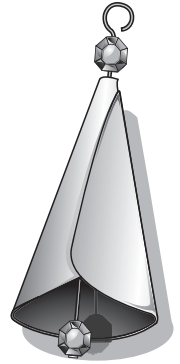


Figure 3